

Practitioner's Docket No.: 892_015

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Masashi ONOUE

Ser. No.: 09/761,844

Art Unit: 3629

Filed: January 16, 2001

Examiner: Edward R. Cosimano

Confirmation No.: 6241

For: CHARGE INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, FRANCHISE SYSTEM PROVIDED WITH THE CHARGE INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS, CHARGE CALCULATING METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND PROGRAM

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on *December 10, 2002* under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EV 031336075 US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp
Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of an Office Action (and an English translation thereof) bearing a mailing date of September 10, 2002 from a corresponding Japanese patent application, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of

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this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin C. Brown
Reg. No. 32,402

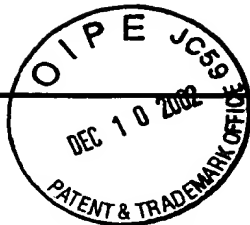
December 10, 2002

Date

KCB:eav

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Form PTO-1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/761,844
				Filing Date	January 16, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Masashi ONOUE
				Art Unit	3629
				Examiner Name	Edward R. Cosimano
				Confirmation No.	6241
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	892_015

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date

U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

Exam. Initial		Application/ Publication Number	Filing/ Publication Date	Inventor Name	Our Docket No.	Class	Sub Class

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract
	AB	09-102003	04-15-1997	JP				✓
	AC	2000-090171	03-31-2000	JP				✓
	AD	10-307868	11-17-1998	JP				✓
	AE	2000-123255	04-28-2000	JP				✓
	AF	11-282904	10-15-1999	JP				✓
	AG	06-338958	12-06-1994	JP				✓
	AH	2000-194764	07-14-2000	JP				✓

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

Examiner:		Date Considered:	
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



12-11-02

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Practitioner's Docket No.: 892_015

PATENT 12-18-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Masashi ONOUE

Serial No.: 09/761,844

Art Unit: 3629

Filed: January 16, 2001

Examiner: Edward R. Cosimano

Confirmation No.: 6241

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PROVIDED WITH THE CHARGE INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS,
CHARGE CALCULATING METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND PROGRAM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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number EV 031336075 US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

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Sir:

- [x] Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed
herewith was *first* cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a
counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this
Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

- [] No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was
cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign
application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any
individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing
of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin C. Brown
Reg. No. 32,402

December 10, 2002
Date

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